

REMARKS

Claims 1-2 are pending in the application. Claim 1 is herein amended. No new matter has been presented.

Objections

The amendment filed December 17, 2010 is objected to under 35 U.S.C. 132(a) because it allegedly introduces new matter into the disclosure.

The Examiner alleged as follows:

The added material which is not supported by the original disclosure is as follows: the condition that $(Z-y-t) > t$ that was added to claim 1 in the amendment filed December 17, 2010. See 35 USC 112, first paragraph rejection of claims 1 and 2 made of record below.

(Office Action, page 2, item 4).

Claim 1 has been amended to delete " $(Z-y-t) > t$ ". Thus, this objection should be withdrawn.

Rejections under 35 USC §112, First Paragraph

Claims 1 and 2 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, first paragraph, as failing to comply with the written description requirement.

The Examiner alleged as follows:

In regard to claim 1, the specification does not provide support for the condition that $(Zy-t) > t$ that was added to claim 1. While the geometries of the components shown in Fig. 1 do fall within this condition, there is no support in the specification as originally filed for the concept of $(Z-y-t) > t$. Even though the components shown in Fig. 1 do fall within this condition, this condition covers a range of structures much broader than what is shown in Fig. 1, and there is no support in the specification as originally filed for the broad range of structures that would fall within the condition of $(Z-y-t) > t$.

(Office Action, page 3, last 7 lines).

As mentioned above, claim 1 is amended to delete “(Z-y-t) > t”.

Claim 2 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, first paragraph, because it depends upon claim 1.

As mentioned above, claim 1 is amended to overcome the 35 U.S.C. 112, first paragraph rejection.

Rejections under 35 USC §102(b)

Claim 1 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Shimizu et al. (U.S. Patent No. 4,816,308).

Claims 1 and 2 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Collette et al. (U.S. Patent No. 5,759,653).

Claim 1 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Kuwabara et al. (JP 03-234604) (English abstract filed with IDS).

Claim 1 has been amended to recite, among other things, “Z > y > L, . . . wherein **Z is a total length along a central axis** of the multilayered molten resin mass, y is a length of umbrella part of the second resin”

None of the cited references, Shimizu et al., Collette et al., and Kuwabara et al., teaches or suggest the amended recitations.

For at least these reasons, claim 1 patentably distinguishes over Shimizu et al., Collette et al., and Kuwabara et al. Claim 2, depending from claim 1, also patentably distinguish over Shimizu et al., Collette et al., and Kuwabara et al. for at least the same reasons.

Rejections under 35 USC §103(a)

Claim 2 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being obvious over Shimizu et al. (U.S. Patent No. 4,816,308).

Claim 2, depending from claim 1, also patentably distinguish over Shimizu et al.

In view of the aforementioned amendments and accompanying remarks, Applicants submit that the claims, as herein amended, are in condition for allowance. Applicants request such action at an early date.

If the Examiner believes that this application is not now in condition for allowance, the Examiner is requested to contact Applicants' undersigned attorney to arrange for an interview to expedite the disposition of this case.

If this paper is not timely filed, Applicants respectfully petition for an appropriate extension of time. The fees for such an extension or any other fees that may be due with respect to this paper may be charged to Deposit Account No. 50-2866.

Respectfully submitted,
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